

"POW/MIA flag" has the same meaning as in section 1082 of such Act.

SEC. 2. The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe regulations with respect to the first section of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 235—COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROTH, Mr. COVERDELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 235

Whereas 1998 marks 100 years of special ties between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and is also the centennial celebration of Philippine independence from Spain which initiated relations with the United States;

Whereas the people of the Philippines have on many occasions demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices, the free exchange of views on matters of public concern, and the development of a strong civil society;

Whereas the Philippines has embraced economic reform and free market principles and, despite current challenging circumstances, its economy has registered significant economic growth in recent years benefitting the lives of the people of the Philippines;

Whereas the large Philippine-American community has immeasurably enriched the fabric of American society and culture;

Whereas Filipino soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam;

Whereas the Philippines is an increasingly important trading partner of the United States as well as the recipient of significant direct American investment;

Whereas the United States relies on the Philippines as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy; and

Whereas the 100th anniversary of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines offers an opportunity for the United States and the Philippines to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Philippines on the commemoration of its independence from Spain;

(2) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines;

(3) supports the efforts of the Philippines to further strengthen democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the expansion of free market economics both at home and abroad; and

(4) recognizes the close relationship between the nations and the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and pledges its support to work closely with the Philippines in addressing new challenges as we begin our second century of friendship and cooperation.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution to com-

memorate 100 years of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines. It is especially fitting for Congress to recognize our special relationship with the Philippines because this year is also the centennial of Philippine independence from Spain. Senators HELMS, BIDEN, THOMAS, INOUE, ROTH, LUGAR, BOXER, COCHRAN, COVERDALE, and MURRAY have joined me in submitting the resolution.

Our country's friendship with the Philippines began in 1898, a year which also marked a growing U.S. interest in the Pacific region. Over the years, the Philippines has modeled its governmental institutions after the United States and has demonstrated a growing commitment to democracy, human rights, and a free market economy.

Until the end of the Cold War, the United States maintained major military facilities in the Philippines, which played a significant role in preserving regional peace and stability. The United States has important strategic, economic, and political interests in Southeast Asia and regional stability remains an overriding U.S. concern. To this end, Filipino soldiers have stood shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to protect and advance mutual interest. Today, the Philippines remains an important partner in guarding the peace and maintaining stability in Southeast Asia.

In the twelve years since the peaceful "people power" revolution restored democracy to the Philippines, President Aquino and Ramos established a democratic government and instituted market-based reforms which placed the Philippines—politically and economically—on a strong foundation for the 21st century. Economic growth exceeded 6 percent last year and is forecast to grow at 3 percent in 1998.

In many ways the Philippines has emerged as a model for her Asian neighbors. Political stability and democratic institutions were strengthened by free market and trade reforms. In turn, deregulation, lower tariffs and government debt, financial transparency, and respect for the rule of law provide a healthy economic foundation for the Philippine's future.

It was not long ago that the Philippine economy was far behind the economic tigers of Asia. The Filipino people's love of democracy and political vitality were blamed in large part for this circumstance. Critics cited the absence of so-called "Asian values" in the Philippines, namely a willingness to make democracy secondary to prosperity and order. History has proven these commentators wrong, and today the Filipino model inspires advocates of democracy throughout Asia. Stability relies upon democracy and prudent economic policies.

Last month when President Clinton and President Ramos met at the White House they reaffirmed the friendship between our nations. The leaders prom-

ised to continue close cooperation in responding to the Asian financial situation and conducted a frank discussion on bilateral issues, including remediation efforts at the former Subic and Clark bases and benefit parity for Filipino-American veterans.

During this special year in which we observe the centennial of our relationship with the Philippines and the centennial of their independence, we have much to celebrate. First, we recognize the valuable contributions of Filipino-Americans to our nation. Filipino Americans helped to build and create the modern Hawaiian economy and have contributed greatly to the cultural diversity that is celebrated in my state. My good friend, Governor Ben Cayetano, is the first Filipino-American governor in the United States. In addition, we reflect on our close friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in times of war and peace. And finally, we look forward to continued close ties with a democratic and prosperous Republic of the Philippines, as we work together to champion democracy and economic growth in the dawning Pacific century.

SENATE RESOLUTION 236—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING ENGLISH PLUS OTHER LANGUAGES

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ABRAHAM and Mrs. HUTCHISON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

S. RES. 236

Whereas English is the most widely used language in the areas of finance, trade, technology, diplomacy, and entertainment, and is the living library of the last 100 years of scientific and technological advance;

Whereas there are more speakers of English as a second language in the world than there are native English speakers, and the large number of English language schools around the world demonstrates that English is as close as any language has been to becoming the world's common language;

Whereas English is the common language of the United States, is important to American life and individual success, and 94 percent of United States residents speak English according to the 1990 decennial census;

Whereas immigrants to the United States have powerful incentives to learn English in order to fully participate in American society and the Nation's economy, and 90 percent of all immigrant families become fluent in English within the second generation;

Whereas a common language promotes unity among citizens, and fosters greater communication;

Whereas there is a renaissance in cultural assertiveness around the world, noting that the more interdependent nations become economically, the more interested the nations are in preserving and sharing cultural identity;

Whereas the reality of a global economy is an ever-present international development that is fostered by international trade and